StatsUpdate

Topic:

Labour Force
Annual average for 2011
Released by Statistics Canada – January 6, 2012

Background:

In Nunavut on average, for 2011, the number of people working was estimated at **11,800,** up by **100** from the previous year. This increase in employment raised the annual average employment rate to an estimated **55.8%** in 2011. The employment rate in Nunavut was lower than those for the other two territories.

From 2010 to 2011 the number of employed people in the other two territories and most of the provinces also increased.

Detail:

Annual Average Employment Levels and Employment Rates for the Population 15 Years and Over by Province and Territory

	Employment		Change in employment		Employment rate	
	2011	2010	2010 to 2011		2011	2010
	thousands		thousands	% change	%	
Nunavut	**11.8**	**11.7**	**0.1**	**0.9**	**55.8**	**55.7**
Canada[1]	**17,306.2**	**17,041.0**	**265.2**	**1.6**	**61.8**	**61.6**
Newfoundland and Labrador	225.4	219.4	6.0	2.7	52.6	51.2
Prince Edward Island	72.0	70.6	1.4	2.0	60.4	60.3
Nova Scotia	452.8	452.5	0.3	0.1	58.1	58.2
New Brunswick	352.0	356.1	-4.1	-1.2	56.8	57.7
Quebec	3,953.6	3,915.1	38.5	1.0	60.1	60.2
Ontario	6,731.3	6,610.0	121.3	1.8	61.6	61.3
Manitoba	624.5	619.8	4.7	0.8	65.5	65.9
Saskatchewan	525.9	524.3	1.6	0.3	65.7	66.3
Alberta	2,094.1	2,016.6	77.5	3.8	69.7	68.1
British Columbia	2,274.7	2,256.5	18.2	0.8	60.2	60.5
Yukon	19.1	17.5	1.6	9.1	72.1	67.3
Northwest Territories	22.7	21.5	1.2	5.6	70.7	66.6

Note(s): The data in this report have been adjusted to reflect the 2006 Census population estimates. All LFS data have been revised back to1996, except the data for Nunavut which have been revised back to 2004.

[1] The Canada total is the sum of the provinces and does not include the territories.

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, CANSIM table # 282-0055

Note:
From 2008 forward the annual estimates for Nunavut cover 19 communities while the annual estimates from 2004 to 2007 only cover the 10 largest communities in Nunavut. Because of the large differences in coverage, users are advised to not compare estimates prior to March 2008 with data from that date forward.

Background:

Nunavut had an increase in the number of employed persons from 2010 to 2011. The increase was for both Inuit and non-Inuit. Although Inuit accounted for about 78% of the working-age population in Nunavut, they accounted for only 64% of all the employed people in the territory on average for 2011. This disparity is represented in the employment rate, which is the number of employed persons in a particular group expressed as a percentage of the population for that group. In 2011, the employment rate was **46.2%** for Inuit and **89.2%** for non-Inuit.

There was an increase in the unemployment rate for Inuit in Nunavut from 2010 to 2011 and was estimated at **22.5%** in 2011.

Detail:

Labour force characteristics for people aged 15 and over, Nunavut, 2010 to 2011 (annual averages)

	2011	2010
Total population aged 15 and over	21,100	20,900
Labour force	14,100	13,700
Employment	11,800	11,700
Unemployment[1]	2,300	2,100
Participation rate (%)	66.8	65.5
Employment rate (%)	55.8	55.7
Unemployment rate[1] (%)	16.5	15.0
Inuit population aged 15 and over	16,400	16,300
Labour force	9,800	9,400
Employment	7,600	7,500
Unemployment[1]	2,200	1,900
Participation rate (%)	59.6	57.9
Employment rate (%)	46.2	46.0
Unemployment rate[1] (%)	22.5	20.5
Non-Inuit population aged 15 and over[2]	4,700	4,600
Labour force	4,300	4,300
Employment	4,200	4,200
Participation rate (%)	91.9	92.3
Employment rate (%)	89.2	89.5

Note(s): The data in this report have been adjusted to reflect the 2006 Census population estimates. All LFS data have been revised back to 1996, except the data for Nunavut which have been revised back to 2004.

[1] Please use the unemployment estimates with caution as they tend to have a higher variability than employment estimates.
[2] Unemployment estimates for non-Inuit are suppressed due to their small numbers.

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, CANSIM table # 282-0055 and special tabulations

Note: From 2008 forward the annual estimates for Nunavut cover 19 communities while the annual estimates from 2004 to 2007 only cover the 10 largest communities in Nunavut. Because of the large differences in coverage, users are advised to not compare estimates prior to March 2008 with data from that date forward.

Definitions

Labour force

Civilian non-institutional population 15 years of age and over who, during the survey reference week, were employed or unemployed.

Employment

Employed persons are those who, during the reference week:
(a) did any work at all at a job or business, that is, paid work in the context of an employer-employee relationship, or self-employment; or

(b) had a job but were not at work due to factors such as own illness or disability, personal or family responsibilities, vacation, labour dispute or other reasons (excluding persons on layoff, between casual jobs, and those with a job to start at a future date).

Unemployment

Refers to persons who during the reference week were available for work and; (i) were without work and had looked for work in the previous four weeks, or (ii) had been on temporary lay-off and expected to return to their job; or (iii) had definite arrangements to start a new job within the next four weeks.

Participation rate

Total labour force expressed as a percentage of the population aged 15 years and over. The participation rate for a particular group (for example, Inuit aged 25 years and over) is the labour force in that group expressed as a percentage of the population for that group.

Employment rate

Number of employed persons expressed as a percentage of the population 15 years of age and over. The employment rate for a particular group (for example, Inuit aged 25 years and over) is the number employed in that group expressed as a percentage of the population for that group.

Unemployment rate

Number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force. The unemployment rate for a particular group (for example, Inuit aged 25 years and over) is the number unemployed in that group expressed as a percentage of the labour force for that group.

Inuit identity

Persons who reported identifying themselves as Inuit. This is based on the individual's own perception of his/her Inuit identity.

Notes about the Labour Force Survey in Nunavut

All the data in this document are from the Labour Force Survey (LFS), a national household survey conducted each month by Statistics Canada. The LFS is the source of the official measure of unemployment in Canada and provides information on major labour market trends. The objective of the LFS is to divide the working-age population into three mutually exclusive classifications – employed, unemployed, and not in the labour force – and to provide descriptive data on each of these categories.

On May 8, 2009, Statistics Canada released Nunavut data collected through the LFS based on a recent increase in survey coverage in Nunavut. The Nunavut LFS data now covers 19 communities, representing about 92% of all Nunavut residents aged 15 years and over. The increase in survey coverage was fully implemented in March 2008 and therefore, the expanded Nunavut LFS data series starts in March 2008 and new data will be released every month thereafter. More information on this change is available in the "*Guide to the Labour Force Survey in Nunavut, 2009*", located on the Nunavut Bureau of Statistics' website (http://www.gov.nu.ca/eia/stats/).

The Nunavut data are collected from a sample of approximately 730 households per three-month consecutive period, involving about 1,800 persons 15 years of age and over. Data collection is carried out each month during the week following the LFS reference week (normally the week containing the 15th day of the month). The average response rate in Nunavut was 92.1% in 2010 and 82.8 in 2011.

All survey counts are rounded to the nearest 100, but the rates are based on the unrounded data. Due to the rounding some components may not sum to the total. Rounded estimates of less than 200 are suppressed for confidentiality and reliability reasons.

More detailed information on the Labour Force Survey methodology, data quality and definitions is available from the Nunavut Bureau of Statistics. For more information about the survey and/or to obtain data, please contact the Bureau's information officers (mmearns@gov.nu.ca or dkilabuk@gov.nu.ca).

For more statistical information, visit our website at http://www.gov.nu.ca/eia/stats/index.html